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February 14, 1949 25X1

UNA - Mr. Bloomfield /s/ LBS

Daily Foreign Broadcast Information Service Report on  
"Soviet and Satellite Radio Reactions to the General  
Assembly Meeting in Paris"

Some time ago you asked me if it would be possible to round up the comments of key personnel who attended the recent Paris session of the United Nations General Assembly as members of the United States delegation, in order to secure what comments we could on the service which you provided the delegation through [ ] London in summarizing monitored radio broadcasts on subjects of interest to the delegation.

We have checked a number of key officers of the delegation, and I think the comments of the Public Information Officers attached to the delegation would be most useful to you, since a majority of policy officers look to the Public Information Officers for information of this sort. I quote below the comments of Porter McKeever, who was chief of the Public Information Staff with the delegation. I would like to add to his remarks our appreciation here of the service which your office rendered.

"The cabled reports were received during the night, compiled and edited under the direction of Mr. Mallory Browne of the United States Delegation, and were distributed to the members of the Delegation each morning.

"The interest of the Delegation in these reports and their usefulness to the Delegation is best indicated by the fact that on those mornings when mechanical difficulties delayed their distribution, Secretary Marshall would ask the Chief Public Information Officer to give the Delegation an oral report.

"In response to your specific inquiry in regard to the Foreign Broadcast Information Service Report, the following should be said:

"The selectivity of subject matter was most impressive. The material reported on always covered those items of direct interest

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to the Delegation. There was no irrelevant material, nor, on the other hand, were we aware of important omissions. In view of the complexity of the Assembly agenda, the variety of subjects involved and the swiftly changing circumstances, the quality of the report revealed laudable editorial judgment.

"The service was swift and timely and whatever lapses occurred resulted from the almost inhuman burden of work which the Message Center of the Delegation was required to carry rather than from any shortcomings on the part of the Broadcast Information Service.

This service was particularly useful to the members of our Delegation concerned with Security Council proceedings on the Berlin Blockade issue. The value of the service to this group was such that arrangements were made to deliver to them two carbon copies of the report as it was received on the teletype so that the delay necessitated by the reproduction process was eliminated. It is worth noting that these arrangements were made in response to requests from the Security Council working group.

"When the Security Council suspended its intense activity on the Berlin case, the Public Information Office, anxious to reduce its own activities and to lighten the work load of the Message Center, circularized the Delegation to determine whether or not the service was still required or whether any reductions could be made. The response was such that the service had to be continued on the same scale throughout the session."

cc : UNA - Mr. Sandifer  
UNP - Mr. Popper  
UNA - Miss Sommer  
USUN - Mr. McKeever

UNA:LPBloomfield:hcr

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